January 8
1925

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'

MILLENNIAL STAR

ESTABLISHED IN 1840

"Hear; for I will speak of excellent things; and the opening of my lips shall be right things. For my mouth shall speak truth; and wickedness is an abomination to my lips." PROVERBS 8: 6-7.

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THE OBJECT OF LIFE*

PRESIDENT RUDGER CLAWSON
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE TWELVE

I AM DEPENDENT this afternoon upon the Lord and the faith of the congregation for what I shall say. We had a very excellent meeting this morning. I trust that the Lord by His spirit will continue to be with us.

I have in my hands an article entitled "Happiness" written by Bruno Lessing. I will read a few lines:

"Many a philosopher has propounded the conundrum: 'What is the object of life? Why have we been placed upon this planet, to struggle along for a few years and then die? Has a beneficent Providence some scheme which we cannot fathom?' This conundrum has not yet been answered."

In reply to these words I may say that the conundrum here spoken of has been answered, and that a beneficent Providence has some scheme which we are able to fathom in order to arrive at a satisfactory solution of this great and important question: "What is the object of life?" We must necessarily hark back to the preexistent state of our spirits. I know that this will seem to be a strange doctrine to many—the preexistence of our spirits—but the Scriptures are replete with references to this important subject. We are living here now. We lived before we came here. Let me submit a Scripture or two bearing upon this subject:

Hebrews 12: 9: "Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live?"

*Address delivered in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Utah, at the second session of General Conference, October 3, 1924.

Numbers 16: 22: "And they fell upon their faces, and said, O God, the God of the spirits of all flesh, shall one man sin, and wilt thou be wroth with all the congregation?"

Ecclesiastes 12: 7: "Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it."

Now, brethren and sisters and friends, as a matter of fact, and as these Scriptures which I have read, and many other Scriptures, indicate, we existed before we came here and belonged to a great family of spirits in heaven. We speak of our Father in heaven. Jesus said, "When ye pray, say, Our Father which art in heaven."

We were His children in spirit, in heaven, and suffice it to say we also have a mother in heaven. There were parents in heaven—parents and children.

Let me say to you that when the earth was organised and rolled into existence, the Lord had a great and glorious purpose in view, and it was that these sons and daughters in the spirit world should come to the earth and inhabit it. Now the first great creative act in the beginning of the world indicates the importance of this subject. We read in Genesis 2: 7:

"And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul."

What a wonderful, marvelous statement this is. Think, my brethren and sisters, what it signifies! We learn from this passage that man could only develop into a perfect soul by taking a body. Perhaps that passage might be better understood if it were rendered in a little different way but with the same meaning—The Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils his spirit, and man became a living soul. It is the spirit which is the breath of life. And so man never did develop, and never could have developed into a perfect soul without the body. And thus we begin to get an insight into the purpose of life. The Lord said in one of the revelations to Joseph Smith, the Prophet:

"And the spirit and the body are the soul of man. And the resurrection from the dead is the redemption of the soul." (Doctrine and Covenants 88: 15-16).

So that we get the impression from these Scriptures that when man comes into the world, as we have done, he begins almost from the first to look forward to the redemption of his soul through the resurrection. And how may this redemption be accomplished? The answer has a direct bearing upon the object and purpose of life. Surely no man can be redeemed except he will obey the commandments of God. I take it that redemption means that we are redeemed from sickness, disease, trouble and sin; and that can only be brought about through obedience, as I said, to the commandments of God. These commandments of the Almighty are set forth in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and if

men reject the Gospel how can they hope to come into the Church and Kingdom of God, and be saved?

You will remember doubtless the conversation between Nicodemus and the Saviour, when Nicodemus came to Him privately by night, in order possibly to get further light and information. He confessed that he knew the Saviour was a prophet because of the great works He had done. The Saviour made what might seem to be a peculiar answer. He said: "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." That was very confusing to Nicodemus. He could not comprehend such a statement. He wondered how it might be. Could a man return to the spirit world and then be born again? In answer the Saviour said, amplifying His first statement: "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God."

Now, brethren and sisters, a rejection of the Gospel is a bar, an absolute bar, against any man or woman entering into the Kingdom of God.

The importance of the body, and we have been emphasising that thought very considerably, is greatly emphasised by another revelation given to the Prophet Joseph Smith:

"For man is spirit. The elements are eternal, and spirit and element, inseparably connected, receive a fulness of joy;

"And when separated, man cannot receive a fulness of joy.

"The elements are the tabernacle of God; yea, man is the tabernacle of God, even temples; and whatsoever temple is defiled, God shall destroy that temple." (Doctrine and Covenants 93: 33-35).

Now you see how directly this passage refers to the object of life, the very purpose of life. In securing a body, we are at once put upon the line of progress that leads to exaltation and glory. We could not do this in our spirit state, but the opportunity is before us here, because the Lord tells us that the body of man is composed of element, that spirit and element inseparably connected receiveth a fulness of joy, or a fulness of happiness. Happiness is the very thing that this writer is dealing with, and that is how it is to be obtained.

How beautiful, how wonderful, is the Gospel of Jesus Christ! What marvelous light is thrown upon our lives in mortality through the Scriptures that we have! The question might be asked: How is it that philosophers and wise men, many of them, reject this light, reject the principles of the Gospel? The answer is: Because they are not spiritually minded. These things can only be comprehended and fully understood by the Spirit of God, and not otherwise. And so vital is this question, so important to our welfare and happiness, that the Saviour delivered this tremendous charge to His Apostles after the crucifixion; He said to them: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned," or condemned, which

means the same. So that those who turn away from the light and who reject the Gospel, be they the learned or the unlearned, men or women, are under condemnation, and, of course, will not attain to a fulness of happiness, to complete and perfect joy. Their wings, so to speak, will be clipped and they will come short.

Now is it any wonder, my brethren and sisters, that the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, in which is to be found the Gospel in its fulness, should send its message to the ends of the earth by our Elders? It seems to me that it is our bounden duty, that the responsibility which was placed upon the Apostles in early days rests now also upon the Apostles of latter days and also upon the Elders of Israel, to carry this message to the world; and as we have received the light freely, we are to give it to others freely. We cannot escape the responsibility.

Standing before you this afternoon, I solemnly testify that this work in which we are engaged is the Church and Kingdom of God, that Jesus is the Christ, that Joseph Smith was and is His Prophet and the instrument in the hands of God in founding His Church upon the earth in these latter days. This is my testimony, and I rejoice in it. I glorify the Lord, and I am striving, and I hope to be able to live the religion which has come to me, which is so perfect in all of its principles, and in the organisation of the Church. Brethren and sisters, the Lord in heaven bless you and sustain you and strengthen you for your duties, and guide you continually; this is my prayer in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

BLESSING AND TESTIMONY*

ELDER HYRUM G. SMITH
PRESIDING PATRIARCH

IT IS INDEED A PLEASURE and a great privilege to be present here this morning, and to stand before this great audience and bear testimony to the divinity of the work in which we are engaged. I trust that the Spirit of the Lord will direct the few remarks which I may make.

Listening to the revelation which was read by our President this morning, and which was given by the Lord to a kinsman of mine, to whom the Lord gave responsibility in the early history of the Church in this dispensation, I was touched with the simplicity of the words of our Father to a great grandsire of mine—counsel and advice which is good to-day for the souls of men. Without referring to the whole revelation I should like to refer to one of the remarkable paragraphs in that important and wonderful revelation.

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*Address delivered in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Utah, at the first session of General Conference, October 3, 1924.

"Remember faith, virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, brotherly kindness, godliness, charity, humility, diligence." Do you know of any advice or counsel that is not contained in those words? There is one word which may be implied but is not said—no Latter-day Saint can receive the blessings of the Lord without *honesty*. We must be honest with ourselves, honest with our neighbours, honest with our God, and then we are entitled to His blessings, to the confidence of our neighbours, to the confidence and fellowship of those who are around us. These words of counsel are applicable to all of us as members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

In visiting among the people, as is my privilege, I have discovered that the Lord has been very kind to us as a people. We have struggled through this year, which has been and is known to us as one of the dry years, when we have not had sufficient rain and moisture for our needs in many cases; but in the kindness of the Lord conditions have been brought about which have brought us to a very happy condition, for there are none among us who are suffering to the extreme. True there have been many losses, true we have not accomplished all that we might have done; but the Lord has been merciful and I wish to acknowledge His hand, not only in behalf of myself, but in behalf of the people and of the Church, and I praise the Lord in your behalf that He has been mindful of us as a people, as individuals and as an organised Church.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is organized for the last time. It is the kingdom of God that has been set up in the last day, never more to be thrown down nor given to another people. It is that organisation which was made plain to the great king of Babylon through the instrumentality of the Prophet Daniel; that in the last days the God of heaven should set up a kingdom likened unto a stone cut out of the mountains without hands, that should smite the great beast which the king saw and break it in pieces, and this stone should roll forth and fill the whole earth. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is that kingdom of God which has been set up never more to be thrown down nor given to another people. It has not come from men of earthly power or from any earthly or man-made organisation. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has neither father nor mother in the earth, for it has not come out of any organisation in the earth. It has come in the manner predicted, as a stone cut out of the mountain without hands, for the power, the keys, the authority and all the privileges that come to us to serve in the name of the Lord have come from heaven, through heavenly powers and heavenly messengers.

I bear testimony to you, my brethren and sisters, that I know with all the powers that I have to know, that these heavenly messengers did come to the Prophet Joseph Smith and did restore

to the earth all the keys and powers of authority which are in the Church to-day, and that men are called upon to bear the Holy Priesthood which is the power to officiate in the Church for the Lord, to do His work, to bring about His marvelous work on earth in these the last days. I bear testimony to you, my brethren and sisters, that the power and keys of authority to officiate in the name of the Lord for the salvation of the souls of men both for the living and for the dead are in the Church to-day. I have seen their marvelous power made manifest. I know that this power rests with the authorities of the Church as they are at present constituted—the prophets, apostles, evangelists, teachers and other men who are called to bear this important responsibility, to bring about the mighty purposes of God in these the last days. I thank the Lord for this testimony. I know it is the truth and I praise the Lord for His kindness and His mercy in bestowing upon His children this plain truth, so that we are not in doubt. We do not wander in our minds, but we know, like children, that we have a father and a mother in heaven, and that we have our loved ones there. We know that if we are true to the teachings, counsels and instructions that are given unto us; that if we are honest and virtuous and faithful, and patient, and diligent, and practice all these other qualities that belong to Latter-day Saints, we shall receive the blessings of the Lord, we shall find that happy day in the hereafter when we shall be associated with our loved ones, and with the men and women whom God has honoured, who have gone before us. Certain powers are in the Church to-day which, if we are faithful in receiving, will bind us together in families, in the links of brotherhood and fatherhood forever: we will claim a natural relationship to our fathers and our mothers and to our brothers and sisters, not for this life only, but for all eternity. These are the keys and the powers and the blessings that will come to us if we will only live worthy lives and be obedient to the teachings and counsels which come to us from our merciful Heavenly Father.

Now brethren and sisters, as a servant of the Lord, in humility I pray God to bless you, and say unto you that He will bless you. He will continue to bless those whom He has called to preside in this great and important work, from the President of the Church to the least and last one who is or who may be called, whether to labour at home or abroad; for this is God's work and not the work of man or men, and it will roll forth even as Daniel declared when he interpreted the great king's dream that it should in time fill the whole earth.

May God bless you in your homes, may He continue to be mindful of your labours, that you may be honest with Him in all of the possessions and blessings that come to you, that you may remember the Lord—whether in poverty or wealth, it matters not. The Lord will require only a certain amount from each of us.

Let us be true and honest and faithful to the end. I pronounce upon you, my brethren and sisters, and upon the Church, the blessings of the Lord, the blessings of Jesus Christ, for this is His Church, and His blessings will continue with His Church and with His people. I pray that His mercies may continue to attend us, and for His spirit to inspire those who speak and pray and sing and take other parts in this conference, that we may be encouraged and built up in our faith, to return to our homes and abiding places after this conference, inspired and blessed and comforted and sustained to serve God and keep His commandments, and work out His mighty purposes according to His will as it has been made known to us; and may the peace and blessing of the Almighty be upon you all, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE VALUE OF A SMILE

THE POET has said: "Smile and the world smiles with you; weep and you weep alone."

There is much in the gospel of the smile. It is a gospel of the ages and will last as long as the world shall exist.

A smile may express amusement, pleasure, reflection, approval, restrained mirth, derision, irony or other various emotions.

A pleasant smile will make the weary forget their cares and a poor man his poverty if troubled by adversities. It is a light in the window of the face by means of which the heart kindles its message of hope and comfort.

Rarely can a smile be seen but what it can be felt.

"A genial smile." Did you ever stop to think that human beings are the only creatures that possess this power to smile? Therefore, it behooves each of us to cherish this ability, to use it, to enlighten the possession of it and through it bring the most happiness to our fellowmen.

The worth of a smile cannot be estimated in money, yet we can use it as we see fit.

The smile is the sunbeam of the soul, lighting up the eyes and transfigruring the countenance.

Friends, when things go wrong, try the gospel of the smile. In the face of adversities and in the midst of discouragement it will help you out of the slough of despondency.

A smile sent forth in the morning will return at dusk with a record of good deeds done, a day spent in the cheering of saddened hearts.

In our troubles, a smile is like the sunshine thrusting rosy fingers through the clouds. It is a beautiful habit; it is a second nature to a cheerful soul.

Appreciate the value of a smile.—*Western Farmer.*

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR

JAMES E. TALMAGE, Editor

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 1925

EDITORIAL

THE "STAR"

WITH THE ISSUE bearing date of New Year's Day the Latter-day Saints' *Millennial Star* opened its eighty-seventh volume. The magazine has a history marked by high value and great effectiveness, while its prospects are bright and inspiring. An impressive feature of its past and present is that in the general format, as to size of page, quality of paper and typography, there has been no great change since the first number appeared. Far from this being evidence of non-progressiveness, to-day the magazine is thoroughly up-to-date as it always has been; rather shall we say that the retention of the original style demonstrates the wise and painstaking care with which all really important details were thought out and determined upon in the beginning.

Number 1 of Volume 1 bore date of May, 1840, and consisted of twenty-four pages. Through the first five volumes the *Star* was published as a monthly; from the beginning of Volume 6 to the close of Volume 13, (December 1851) it appeared as a semi-monthly, and from that date to the present it has issued regularly at weekly intervals. For about twenty years it was printed by contract at such custom establishments as offered the best terms; but from April 1861 it has had its own press.

Though not without many and notable exceptions, the unwritten rule has obtained that the President of the British Mission be also Editor of the *Star*. Of necessity, and particularly because of his frequent absences from headquarters, he has had to be assisted by able associate-editors, and among these are many whose names stand high on the roll of honour in the Church. The line of editors-in-chief is one of distinguished succession; and each in turn has continued the general plan of his predecessors, ever improving, but without attempting radical innovations or drastic changes. In this we see further evidence of the well-considered and adequate policy projected by the founders of the journal.

Analysis of the eighty-six volumes now completed reveals a splendid array of original contributions, reprinted articles and editorials, dealing with subjects of deep import to the Latter-day Saints, and presenting themes of exalted conception in the field of theology. The editors have utilized to the full the means afforded by this official organ to counsel and instruct the

Church members in matters of timely interest and importance; and thus have they been thoroughly "furnished unto all good works" pertaining to their duties as Latter-day Saints.

The present editor has neither greater wish nor higher aim than to follow diligently the course of the worthies who have gone before; and as they could not have attained the fulness of their accomplished success without the whole-souled support of the membership in this Mission, so he realises this dependence and earnestly bespeaks the good will and hearty cooperation of both Latter-day Saints and earnest investigators of the plan of organisation, the doctrines and practices of the Church.

Such a medium of communication, as the *Star* affords, between the President of the Mission and the officers and members in the several conferences and branches, is a necessity if organised effort is to continue and creditable progress be made. Then let it be that every member shall have ready access to the magazine, and to this end it should be a regular and welcome arrival in every Latter-day Saint home in Britain. But more than this is requisite to insure best results; the *Star* is an excellent missionary, and its enlightening ministry should be assured to every inquirer who would know for himself what the Latter-day Saints believe and are doing. Those who subscribe for the magazine can do a great service by lending their copies to others not of the Church, who in time may be sufficiently interested to subscribe for themselves.

To members and non-members alike the *Star* extends the heartiest greetings for the year just begun; with kind invitation, earnest recommendation and gentle admonition to "read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest" the truth concerning the beliefs, ideals and works of the Latter-day Saints, as has been and yet shall be set forth in its pages from week to week.—J. E. T.

PRESIDENT SEYMOUR B. YOUNG

A GREAT AND GOOD MAN has received his honourable release from further service in the mission field of Earth, and has been transferred to the broader realm beyond. Elder Seymour Bicknell Young, senior president among the seven who compose the First Council of the Seventies, passed from this life at his home in Salt Lake City on Monday, December 15th, when in his eighty-eighth year.

Born in Kirtland, Ohio, October 3, 1837, he was cradled in adversity, and passed the stages of youth and early manhood in the school of persecution and struggle, and this, literally for the Gospel's sake! He is the nephew of President Brigham Young and the son of Joseph Young, the President's eldest brother, who, in a Revelation given at Nauvoo, Illinois, January 19, 1841, was designated by the Lord as the first of the Seven Presidents of the

Seventies; and the son, Seymour B., came to be likewise named, by specific revelation, in October 1882, as a President of the Seventies, and by succession he advanced to the position of the first in the Council. In turn he has had the supreme joy of seeing his son, Levi Edgar, called to a position in the presiding Council of the Seventies.

By profession Seymour B. Young was a physician, having been graduated with honour in the Medical College of the University of New York in 1874. Many yet living, and more who in the course of Nature have passed on, honour the name of Dr. Young for his tender ministry, in which were combined the skill of a trained physician and the healing gift inherent in him as a man of God, strong in faith, mighty in prayer, and invested with the authority and power of the Holy Priesthood.

Following the troubled days of the Church in Ohio, Missouri and Illinois, he figured conspicuously and efficiently in suppressing Indian uprisings in the West, and served well his country in the exigencies of the Civil War as one of the valiant band assigned to the hazardous duty of guarding the mail routes and protecting passenger travel in stage-coach days. He has taken part in the post-war activities of the Indian War Veterans and of the Grand Army of the Republic. In civic affairs and community undertakings for general betterment he has been no less energetic than in the tragic scenes incident to war.

In personality Brother Young was particularly impressive, for he presented the ideal embodiment of kindness, sympathy and courtesy. Truly he was a gentle man, and withal a gentleman of the truest type. These ennobling attributes are reflected and perpetuated in the character of every one of his family.

Elder Seymour B. Young will be remembered mostly and best as a preacher of righteousness, a missionary to the nations, a minister in the Church of Jesus Christ. His personal testimony was direct and assuring; and in proclaiming the message of the restored Gospel he knew not fatigue but found renewal of strength.

It has been the oft-recurring privilege of the writer of these lines to be associated with President Seymour B. Young in visitation to the several stakes of Zion, and to hear his vigorous and effective words of solemn witness to the actuality of the Restoration, and the blessed reality of the divine reestablishment of the Church of Jesus Christ upon the earth in this the last dispensation through the instrumentality of the Prophet Joseph Smith. Though undeniably feeling the weight of years, Brother Young would rise with alacrity at the call to the pulpit, and speak with the voice of youth in persuasive exhortation, pleading admonition and solemn warning.

May the Lord grant comfort to his family, to whom he has bequeathed the princely heritage of an honoured name, an un-

blemished record of good work well done, and an example glorified by unending inspiration. By his kindred, by the Latter-day Saints throughout the world, and by many of the influential and honourable men of the earth not of the Church, the name of Seymour B. Young will be held in esteemed remembrance.—J. E. T.

COMMENT FAVOURABLE AND OTHERWISE

THE FACT that there are Latter-day Saints in Great Britain, both resident members of the Church and missionaries who have come from over the seas, has been made pretty clear to the readers of British newspapers during the last two months. In all main divisions of the United Kingdom liberal publicity has been given to the Church, and especially to its missionary system. By both our real name and by the misnomer, "Mormons", which has been fastened upon us, we are known by good or evil report throughout the land.

The Yellow Press has been reveling in the prurient falsehood and scurrilous misrepresentation with which it has maligned this people; and in a few instances papers of a better class have been so misled as to present distorted and therefore untruthful pictures, though seemingly without pronounced animus or desire to falsify. Journals of yet another type have accorded us fair and even defensive treatment, and have plainly set forth the sterling qualities by which the people are characterised.

It is interesting and encouraging to note that some editors are willing to rectify their mistakes so far as possible when the fact that they are in error is properly presented to them, or at least are ready to give space to contributions showing the other side of the subject under discussion. Such a course is manly and honourable in the individual and most commendable as an editorial policy or rule of procedure.

Of this worthy sort is the *Yorkshire Evening Argus*, published at Bradford. Though at first assailing the Latter-day Saints, both by writings of its special commissioner and in editorial utterance, this paper opened its columns to an article by the President of the European Missions, and otherwise demonstrated its willingness to have the truth made plain. Favourable treatment has been accorded the Latter-day Saints by other papers in the same district, notably the *Yorkshire Observer*, Bradford; the *Yorkshire Post*, Leeds; the *Leeds Mercury*; and in other sections by the *Manchester Guardian*, *Manchester Chronicle*, *Liverpool Post* and *Echo*, *Birmingham Gazette*, *Birmingham Despatch*, *Western Mail* and *South Wales News*, both of Cardiff, *Sunderland Echo*, *Newcastle Chronicle* and many others.

The *Clifton Chronicle*, published at Bristol, printed an editorial embodying several gross misstatements concerning us; but to the

editor's credit be it said that on having these pointed out he willingly gave equal space to an article by the Mission President, which he prefaced by a complimentary note, and abandoned his once stated purpose of publishing other writings against us.

We welcome publicity, and court investigation. The more thorough the examination, the better are we pleased. Every truthful statement published about the Latter-day Saints will be of effect in ameliorating prejudice and in the support of justice and right.—J. E. T.

ELDER MONSON ADDRESSES THEATRE AUDIENCE

DURING THE WEEK ending December 6th, an anti-"Mormon" play was staged in the Grand Theatre, Stockton (Newcastle Conference). Elders M. Ivan Batty and Godfrey Holmes of the Darlington Branch attended one performance and distributed literature afterward. The following night, Elder Jesse R. Smith and one of the local brethren from Middlesbrough attended and held a conversation with the managers of the hall. The managers were very friendly and invited Elder Smith to come back on the following Tuesday to appear at the second performance and inform the audience about the "Mormons." Elder Smith responded that a representative would be there; and on the strength of this, announcement was made that on Tuesday night the patrons could behold a real "Mormon" from Utah.

President William A. Monson of the Newcastle Conference filled the appointment. How successfully a bad situation was turned into a favourable opportunity can be judged from President Monson's account:

"Arriving at the entrance, I stopped for a moment to look over the posters, and while thus engaged was made conscious of the amusement my presence was causing to the few that were entering the theatre, for they recognised me to be a 'Mormon.' Inquiring at the ticket office I found I was expected and was ushered to the stage. From the general atmosphere of the place I commenced to think I had been led into a 'spider's parlour.' However, Elder Smith soon met me and we conversed with the theatre manager, as well as with some of the cast. They treated us cordially but with an air of wonderment as to our real character. The manager promised that he would give me a good introduction, which I felt would be acceptable, from the attitude of the people I had already come in contact with.

"During the interval between the first and the second performance, we took seats in the circle. People coming in noticed us and with rudeness, characterising their beliefs concerning the 'Mormons', commenced nudging each other and jeering us.

"At the appointed time, the manager stepped out and an-

nounced: 'Last Friday night we promised to have a real 'Mormon' Elder from Utah here. Well, he is actually with us to-night, but isn't a bad fellow,' etc. Truly, he has made an advertising scheme out of this, I thought. The people applauded his introduction, and I commenced on my allotted fifteen minutes. I can most assuredly say that the Spirit of the Lord came to my assistance. The audience became respectful and gave splendid attention during the eighteen minutes I was out. I took up all the time refuting slanders, and received a hearty applause when through.

"The manager, I think, was just a little disappointed in the 'sensational' aspects of it all, but was still very kind and invited us to call on him whenever in the vicinity. He said he would like to arrange an affair in the theatre for some Sunday night, but I didn't take his offer too seriously."

COPIES OF ANTHEM FOR DISTRIBUTION

THROUGH THE COURTESY of the composer, Brother William C. Clive of Salt Lake City, Utah, we have a limited number of copies of the anthem "The Pioneers" for distribution to choirs in the British Mission. Upon application from Conference Presidents, we will furnish copies for choir leaders. The words, written by Brother Edward H. Anderson are as follows:

"We sing to the Pioneers!
Let the hills resound our cheers:
To the Pioneers!
To the Pioneers!
Let our songs and echoes swell.

How the noble band and true,
Paved the way for me and you,
In the gravest fears,
Amidst pain and tears,
Let their happy children tell!"

FROM THE MISSION FIELD

Baptism—A baptismal service was held at Manchester, the 25th ult. One candidate was baptised by Elder George T. Blanch and confirmed by Elder A. Don Batty.

Elders Labour in Country—During the month of December President James D. Moyle and Elder Maurice R. Barnes of the Norwich Conference made trips on bicycles through the country districts. The Elders held several successful street meetings in country villages.

Special Christmas Programs—Sunday, the 21st ult., the Sunday

School children of the Lowestoft Branch (Norwich Conference) illustrated the spirit of Christmas by rendering a special program of recitations, songs and essays.

The Norwich Branch Sunday School held a special Christmas service the 21st ult. The theme of the occasion was the Birth of Christ and the Spirit of Christmas. The children presented an interesting and instructive program.

Meetings of Traveling Elders—The traveling Elders of the Manchester Conference met in regular Priesthood meeting the 6th ult., under the direction of President Ronald D. McGregor. An interesting lecture on the "Word of Wisdom" was given by Elder John H. Tomlinson.

The traveling Elders of the Norwich Conference met at Ipswich in their monthly Priesthood meeting on the 24th ult. President James D. Moyle presided. Favourable reports from each branch, showing an increase in the missionary activities, were heard. Elder Harold L. White gave a talk on "The Second Article of Faith." Brother Alexander Gooding, President of the Ipswich Branch, was the host at a special dinner following the meeting. The Elders spent Boxing Day at the home of Sister Harriet Barker.

The regular monthly Priesthood meeting of the traveling Elders of the Welsh Conference was held at Cardiff on the 31st ult., under the direction of President Lewis F. Hansen. The Elders gave favourable reports of the conditions existing in their respective branches. Fourteen lost members were reported found. President Hansen commended the work of the Elders and gave general instructions emphasising the necessity of persistent, energetic efforts.

Socials—The Mutual Improvement Association of the Cheltenham Branch (Bristol Conference) held a successful social the 17th ult. An interesting program in keeping with the Christmas spirit was rendered, after which games were played and refreshments were served. There were in attendance Elders K. John Myers, Vernal G. Jones and Le Roy E. Peterson and many members and friends.

A successful bazaar and social was held at Grimsby (Hull Conference) on the 12th ult., under the auspices of the Relief Society. A program consisting of a scarf-drill and lullaby song by the Sunday School children and various other parts by the local Dolphin Ladies Club was rendered under the direction of Mr. J. C. Nurse. As a supplementary part of the entertainment the Elders, members and friends of the conference joined in a farewell testimonial in tribute to Elder Horace Y. Whittle who has been honourably released to return home. Elder Whittle was presented with tokens of respect from his friends and fellow-workers. There

were present President Kenneth A. Brady and Elders Ellis A. Hipwell, LeRoy D. Tingey, Edward Smith and J. Leland Behmnin.

The Oldham Branch (Manchester Conference) held a basket social the 13th ult. A well prepared program was rendered.

The Relief Society of the Nottingham Branch held a bazaar the 20th ult. A pleasing program was rendered, and a good time was enjoyed by all in attendance.

The Rochdale Branch (Manchester Conference) held a delightful Christmas program and party on the 20th ult. Christmas refreshments were served and Father Christmas presented gifts to those in attendance.

The Hull Branch Relief Society held a successful bazaar and social on the 22nd ult. The feature of the bazaar was the sale of work which had been prepared by the members in their sewing meetings. Refreshments were sold and a program and games were enjoyed by those in attendance.

A Christmas social was held at Eastwood (Nottingham Conference) on Boxing Day. A cantata entitled "Christmas in Dreamland" was given by the Sunday School students, under the direction of Brother George W. Hart. There were seventy-two present, including a number of members and friends from other branches.

The Sunday School of the Liverpool Branch, under the direction of Superintendent Thomas Grimshaw, offered the children a Christmas party on Boxing Day. A program was rendered and games were played. Father Christmas distributed presents to the children.

A successful Christmas social was held at Belfast (Ulster Conference) on December 26th. A program, games and refreshments characterised the entertainment. In attendance were many members and friends and President Russell C. Capener and Elders Ernest C. Moore, Robert Souter and George A. Baker.

A social was held at Nottingham on the 27th ult. An interesting program was rendered, after which games were played. The entertainment was enjoyed by all who attended.

The Ipswich Branch (Norwich Conference) held a delightful social in the home of Brother Alexander Gooding on the 26th ult. Seasonable refreshments were served and interesting games were played. The feature of the evening was a wireless concert. The branch is to be complimented upon the large number of friends and investigators present. President James D. Moyle and Elders Ben E. Summers, Rulon L. Russon, Maurice R. Barnes, Harold L. White and Clifford D. Gough were in attendance.

On the 29th ult., the Lowestoft Branch (Norwich Conference) held an interesting Christmas social. A well prepared program was rendered and refreshments were served. An encouraging number of friends and members and President James D. Moyle and Elders Walter F. Whitehead and Maurice R. Barnes were present.

THE VOYAGE

Which ever way the wind doth blow,
Some heart is glad to have it so;
Then blow it east or blow it west,
The wind that blows, that wind is best.

My little craft sails not alone:
A thousand fleets from every zone
Are out upon a thousand seas;
And what for me were favoring breeze
Might dash another, with the shock
Of doom, upon some hidden rock.

And so I do not dare to pray
For winds to waft me on my way,
But leave it to a Higher Will
To stay or speed me; trusting still
That all is well, and sure that He
Who launched my bark will sail with me,
Through storm and calm, and will not fail,
Whatever breezes may prevail,
To land me, every peril past,
Within His sheltering haven at last.

Then, whatsoever wind doth blow,
My heart is glad to have it so;
And blow it east or blow it west,
The wind that blows, that wind is best.

Caroline Atherton Mason.

DEATH

James—Brother Edward James, aged sixty-three, of the Manchester Branch, died December 7th, 1924, at Withington, Manchester. Funeral services were held at the home under the direction of President Ronald D. McGregor. Elder Charles A. Halverson dedicated the grave.

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